GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3756
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2000
DEVELOPMENT OF NAVAL BASE BY PAKISTAN
DALPAT SINGH PARASTE;JAI BHADRA SINGH;JAI PRAKASH

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Naval Base called `Jinna Port` equipped with modern war-heads and Submarines which are superior as compared to the Indian fleets is being developed in Arabian Sea by Pakistan to protect the Karachi port and the other cities from any external threat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these submarines are capable of destroying the enemy ships without making any noise beneath sea water;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether in this connection the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Paschim Bharat ke Pramukh Shahar va Audyogik Kshetra Sidhe Nisane Par` appearing in the Dainik Jagaran dated July 11, 2000?

(f) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) - (d) Government are aware of reports that Pakistan recently inaugurated the Jinnah Naval Base (JNB) at Ormara. Media reports have projected the new naval base as providing Pakistan with greater tactical advantage. However, according to available information only berthing facilities for submarines are as yet available at JNB.

Pakistan Navy has recently acquired one state-of-the-art Agosta 90-B submarine from France. Two more Agosta 90-B submarines are being built in Karachi. The Agosta 90-B submarine is stealthy and effective characterized by silent operations.

(e) & (f). Government have seen the report appearing in the Dainik Jagaran of July 11, 2000. Government continue to take all necessary measures to preserve the security and territorial integrity of the country.